

or availability to a subscriber by means of computer terminal.

Subscriber means a ticket agent, as defined in 49 U.S.C. 1301(40) of the Act, that holds itself out as a neutral source of information about, or tickets for, the air transportation industry in general, and that has entered into an agreement for the use of a system.

System means a computerized airline reservation system offered by a carrier to subscribers, for use in the United States that contains information about schedules, fares, rules or availability of other carriers and that provides subscribers with the ability to issue tickets.

System vendor means a carrier that owns, controls or operates a system.

Designator code means the airline designations allotted and administered pursuant to Agreements CAB 24606 and 26056.

§ 256.4 Display of information.

(a) A system vendor shall not deny access to its system to two or more carriers whose flights share a single designator code, absent a determination by the Board that the use of the code constitutes a violation of 49 U.S.C. 1381.

(b) A system vendor shall not discriminate against any carrier on the basis of that carrier's using the same designator code as another carrier, either by display bias, or any other means relating to providing the system.

PART 257—DISCLOSURE OF CODE-SHARING ARRANGEMENTS AND LONG-TERM WET LEASES

Sec.

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AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 40113(a) and 41712.

SOURCE: 64 FR 12851, Mar. 15, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 257.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to ensure that ticket agents doing business in the United States, air carriers, and for-

eign air carriers tell consumers clearly when the air transportation they are buying or considering buying involves a code-sharing arrangement or a long-term wet lease, and that they disclose to consumers the transporting carrier's identity.

§ 257.2 Applicability.

This part applies to the following:

(a) Direct air carriers and foreign air carriers that participate in code-sharing arrangements or long-term wet leases involving scheduled passenger air transportation; and

(b) Ticket agents doing business in the United States that sell scheduled passenger air transportation services involving code-sharing arrangements or long-term wet leases.

§ 257.3 Definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) *Air transportation* means foreign air transportation or interstate air transportation as defined in 49 U.S.C. 40102 (a)(23) and (25) respectively.

(b) *Carrier* means any air carrier or foreign air carrier as defined in 49 U.S.C. 40102(2) or 49 U.S.C. 40102(21), respectively, that is engaged directly in scheduled passenger air transportation, including by wet lease.

(c) *Code-sharing arrangement* means an arrangement whereby a carrier's designator code is used to identify a flight operated by another carrier.

(d) *Designator code* means the airline designations originally allotted and administered pursuant to Agreements CAB 24606 and 26056.

(e) *Long-term wet lease* means a lease by which the lessor provides both an aircraft and crew dedicated to a particular route(s), and which either:

(1) Lasts more than 60 days; or

(2) Is part of a series of such leases that amounts to a continuing arrangement lasting more than 60 days.

(f) *Ticket agent* has the meaning ascribed to it in 49 U.S.C. 40102(40).

(g) *Transporting carrier* means the carrier that is operating the aircraft in a code-sharing arrangement or long-term wet lease.

§ 257.4 Unfair and deceptive practice.

The holding out or sale of scheduled passenger air transportation involving